

the chronicle

**Choir of Valentines
has plenty
to sing about**

– see page 2



**Artist's labour of
love will make
cash for charity**

– see page 3



**School chef's art
leaves pupils
game for a change**

– see page 6



ANGER AS AXE FALLS ON COURT

**Lilly sleeps on through
locked car drama**



Lilly safe in the arms of her mother, Nicola Bourne, with firefighter Tony Wilks

NEW-BORN Bewdley baby Lilly Hudgdon sent her mum into a "blind panic" when she got locked in her car with the keys inside.

The two-week-old was trapped for over an hour, until she was rescued by firemen who put masking tape on the window and smashed it to free her.

The tiny tot slept through the drama at her family's home in Lyttleton Road, Bewdley.

Lilly's mother Nicola Bourne, aged 32, had put her into the baby seat at the back of the car and then threw her handbag on to the front seat with the car keys inside. As she closed the door, the central locking system activated.

"I was petrified and went into a blind panic," said Nicola, a mentor for young people at Kidderminster schools and the town's college. Lilly's father Mark Hudgdon, a quantity surveyor, rushed home from work and tried in vain to find spare keys during the drama on Tuesday, December 14.

KIDDERMINSTER County Court has been axed as part of the Government's drive to make a better justice system.

The move will see 93 magistrates and 49 county courts closed, 13 of which are in Staffordshire and West Mercia.

The county court, often referred to as the small claims court because that constitutes much of its business, is being shut as part of sweeping cuts expected to save about £41.5million.

Justice Minister Jonathan Djanogly said: "Access to justice is not just about access to buildings. It's about the type of justice delivered, decent facilities for victims and witnesses and efficient use of the system."

"Our court estate has simply not kept pace with the changing nature of our society or with the demands modern society places on our justice system."

"An estate of over 500 court buildings is not now necessary or sustainable."

"We are closing the worst courts in the estate so we can concentrate our limited resources on the best ones. We are investing in the court estate

**By Sarah
Hazelwood**

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with new buildings and with refurbishment of facilities.

"We have listened to the significant points made by respondents to the consultation. As a result we have decided not to close 15 courts."

But the decision has drawn protests from one of the country's main organisations for professional landlords, the Residential Landlords Association (RLA).

Alan Ward, its chairman, said: "Residential landlords are among the few businesspeople that regularly have to use the court service as part of their day to day work."

"When a tenant refuses to pay rent, or has anti-social behaviour issues that cannot be resolved, then they must be evicted."

"Even under the present system the workload at county courts means this can take up to six months. Landlords with mortgages are losing properties as well as the chance for decent tenants to take their place."

**Special night, but will
the shepherd nod off?**



All together now – aaah! Back from left, Harriet Cooper, Joseph Hadley and Courtney Hope; front, Joshua Bradley and Declan O'Brien, all aged five

SCHOOL youngsters impressed teachers and staff with an "absolutely fantastic" performance of their nativity play.

Year One pupils at Burlish Park Primary School in Stourport told the story of The Sleepy Shepherd, a play penned by children's author Niki Davies.

It tells the story of whether the shepherd can stay awake for the birth of Jesus.

Year One teacher Sarah Fisher said: "The performance was absolutely fantastic."

"The children worked really hard during rehearsals to ensure that they were word perfect on the day."

"They enjoyed dressing up as stars, angels, shepherds, sheep and of course, Mary and Joseph."

"Parents, grandparents and visitors all enjoyed watching their children sing and act out the nativity."

**'School
pupils'
try to
grab bag**

TWO teenagers in school uniform tried to grab a handbag from a woman in Kidderminster.

The two male youths ran off empty handed when they were disturbed by a passing driver.

Police are appealing for witnesses and information after the incident in Hoo Road just before 9am on Tuesday, December 14.

The 19-year-old victim was walking towards the Worcester Road and had just reached the junction with Kennedy Close when two youths who had just walked past her in the opposite direction turned to follow her and then grabbed her bag.

Struggle

There was a brief struggle as she hung on to the bag and the teenagers ran off towards Comberton Hill when they were disturbed by a driver who stopped to help the woman. She was shaken but not injured.

The offenders were both white, thought to be aged between 15 and 17, slim, of medium height and wearing casual jackets over school uniforms.

Detective Sergeant Peter Wheeler of Kidderminster CID said: "This happened in broad daylight and we are keen to talk to anyone who may have been in that area at the time who saw the offenders or anything of this incident."

Cruel thieves' £5,000 haul

CALLOUS thieves mounted an elaborate con before stealing the bank card of an elderly woman in Kidderminster and using it for a £5,000 spending spree.

Four people featured in the theft which was launched in the Morrisons store in the town.

The victim, in her 80s, was approached in the store by two younger women who initially asked her to change some money for the trolley.

One of the women then picked up a £10 note from the floor and told the pensioner she had dropped it. She said she had not

but checked anyway, and one of the women leaned in close to her.

The victim walked out of the store into Green Street and was again approached by the two women, asking if she was sure she had not dropped the money.

Missing

Again the victim looked in her purse, and the women put the £10 in her hand and told her to keep it before walking off.

The woman then noticed her debit card was missing. It has since been used for £5,000 of debit transactions and the withdrawal

of £240, all in the Wolverhampton area. CCTV footage showed two men were also involved.

Pc Rosie Burrows of West Mercia Police said: "The theft was well planned and the four people involved were communicating via text message. The footage also shows other elderly people in the store being approached by these women."

The theft took place around 11.40am on Saturday, December 11.

Anyone with information should contact Pc Burrows on 0300 333 3000.



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Robbers get £280 from man

ROBBERS grabbed nearly £300 from a man they attacked as he walked home in Kidderminster.

The victim, who is in his 20s, had visited Tesco Express at Comberton Hill minutes before the robbery happened at around 11.30pm on Friday, December 10.

While walking through Radford Avenue he was approached by three men who asked him for a cigarette. He produced a packet and they grabbed several cigarettes before knocking him to the ground after he protested.

His attackers ran off and although the victim found his wallet on the ground, £280 had been stolen.

He was left with bruising but did not require medical treatment.

All of the robbers were white and one had a slim build, gaunt face and large nose. All wore mainly dark clothing. Police are studying CCTV footage and have made house-to-house inquiries.

Anyone with information is asked to call Det Sgt Peter Wheeler of Kidderminster CID on 0300 333 3000 or Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Man on remand

MAGISTRATES at Kidderminster remanded Darren Paolucci, aged 42, of Dowles Road, Kidderminster, in custody to Worcester Crown Court on March 14 charged with making threats to kill, false imprisonment and affray.

Valentines began with handful of singers and now has 70-plus members

Top note as choir swells in number

FROM just a handful of singers 23 years ago, an all-female Kidderminster choir now boasts more than 70 members and a string of concerts.

Patrons Sir Tim Rice and broadcaster Peter Tomlinson are heavily involved with the 74-member choir The Kidderminster Valentines, who range in age from 16 to 65, writes Sarah Hazelwood.

Council blow as grant is cut by nearly £2m

WYRE FOREST District Council will see its Government grant cut by nearly £2million.

Figures announced on December 15 showed a 15.8 per cent cut in grant to the council for 2011-12 and a further 13 per cent for 2012-13.

Average cuts were 10.7 per cent and 6.4 per cent respectively.

The figures were described as "a major challenge" by council leader Councillor John Campion.

"We were expecting a challenging settlement from Government," he said.

"It is clear that significant savings need to be made nationally in order

for the budget deficit to be addressed. Wyre Forest District Council is prepared to play its part.

"However the Government's announcement about grant funding for the next two years is very disappointing. It represents a major challenge for us in seeking to protect the most valued and necessary front line services on which our communities depend. We have requested an urgent meeting with the Secretary of State to express our grave concern."

Councillor Campion said the authority had already made 8 per cent cost reductions in 2009-10.

The versatile performers are also helped by composer Murfudd Sinclair who helps to compile their four-part harmonies.

Musical director and founder, Pam Cunningham, of Ashley Road, said: "We have a go at everything and we are a very wide-ranging choir who enjoy having fun and getting audiences involved within our performances."

"My husband was a member of the Kidderminster male choir, which is how I first got introduced to it."

"Twenty-three years later I can truly say that it has been a marvellous journey and we have all developed so much."

"The choir is going from strength to strength and we are a tremendous group of people who are all firm friends," she added.

Having showcased their talents all over the UK the group have performed with an array of vocalists including the likes of actress and singer Barbara Dickson.

They have also crossed the



The massed ranks of The Kidderminster Valentines ready to burst into song

border to their twin town Husum in Germany, whose choir has since performed in Kidderminster.

The ladies are dedicated to supporting charitable organisations and during November alone raised more than £2,000 from just two concerts.

Research

They were also the largest choir involved in helping to raise funds for Cancer Research UK at the Royal Albert Hall last year – their second time on the famous stage.

Performing at weddings,

birthdays and special events the group has even been known to sing at funerals.

It was one of their early shows, where Pam and a couple of friends joined with the Kidderminster male voice choir, that prompted their romantic name.

The group gathered to help a lady pay her last respects to her husband, who she had married on Valentine's Day.

As a special gesture the ladies named themselves the Kidderminster Male Voice Valentines.

From that day the name stuck and as more women joined they

pulled away from the male vocalists simply becoming The Kidderminster Valentines.

As active members of The National Association of Choirs, for the Midlands group, the choir holds a series of musical workshops throughout the year which can attract up to 150 people.

Summer

Set for a busy 2011 the Valentines are already preparing for their summer tour.

For more information about the choir call Pam Cunningham on 01562 630914.

Flytip van man attacks driver

A DRIVER was attacked near Chaddesley Corbett after questioning a fly-tipper.

The victim, a man in his 60s, was driving on the A445 Kidderminster to Bromsgrove road near Lodge Ford Hill when he saw a blue van parked in a layby with a man taking rubbish out of the van and dumping it in a ditch.

The victim pulled in behind the vehicle and questioned the man, who became aggressive.

The victim returned to his own vehicle to get a pen and paper and began to write down the van's registration number. The tipper then grabbed him by the arm and tried to drag him to the ground.

He also pushed him into the road before getting into his own vehicle and driving off.

The victim was not injured in the attack, which happened just after 9am on Friday, December 10.

PC Matt Winnill of West Mercia Police said vehicles were driving past at the time.

He appealed for witnesses or anyone with information to call him on 0300 333 3000 or ring Crimestoppers anonymously on 0800 555111.

Burglary arrest

A MAN has been arrested by police probing the theft of a substantial amount of cash in a burglary at the Tesco Express store in Warbler Place, Kidderminster.

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Repaying debt that is owed to The Few

PRINTS OF an artist's poignant tribute to those who served in the Battle of Britain – which took 670 hours to paint – have gone on sale at Bewdley Art Gallery.

David Edwards completed the labour of love, entitled *Never So Much Owed To So Few*, earlier this year.

The oil on canvas painting depicts a panoramic view of Bewdley in 1940, including a Severn Valley Railway passenger train, with Spitfire and Hurricane fighter planes flying overhead.

Mr Edwards, of Wheatcroft Avenue, unveiled his work in September and is now offering copies to the public, with proceeds from each print sold going to the Douglas Bader Foundation.

By Tim Spiers

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against the evils of dictatorship."

In a letter to Mr Edwards the director of operations at the Douglas Bader Foundation, Keith Delderfield, praised the artist for his efforts.

"You clearly have quite a passion for your work to say nothing of a remarkable skill and I congratulate you," Mr Delderfield said. "I am indebted to you for offering the wonderful picture for the benefit of our charity."

The three-sized copies are now on display at Bewdley Gallery and will remain there for the foreseeable future.

Gallery manager Trevor Price said: "It's excellent work."

"We've known David for a while and we're happy to give him as much help as we can."

"The painting has had an excellent response from our visitors."

For more information call the gallery on 01299 400918.



Kidderminster artist David Edwards with prints of his painting at Bewdley Art Gallery

Safari park keen to create picnic area

A COVERED picnic area is planned for the West Midland Safari Park – the latest in a series of improvements.

The safari park in Bewdley has submitted plans for the sheltered eating area to go next to the toilet block.

Consultations are going ahead on the scheme before it goes before Wyre Forest District Council's planning

committee for discussion. It is the latest in a series of developments planned at the park.

Plans for a replica African village and woodland walk have already been approved by the district council.

Other schemes in the pipeline include improvements to the entrance, ticket booths, and bus shelters outside the A456 attraction.

Number of jobless shows a slight rise

THE jobless figure has risen slightly in Wyre Forest.

Latest figures show a rise of 22 in the claimant count to 2,220, or 3.6 per cent.

The national total in the quarter to October hit 7.9 per cent, the highest since the start of the year.

Unemployment in the West Midlands rose by 12,000 to 238,000.

At 8.9 per cent, the region still has one of the worst unemployment rates in the country with only Yorkshire and the north-east faring worse.

The Office for National Statistics also reported that the number of those aged 16 to 24 who are out of work increased by 28,000 to 943,000, meaning almost one in five of the age group is out of work.

Saddle up for big hunt

FAMILIES are getting set for a festive mountain bike treasure hunt in the Wyre Forest.

The annual event is being staged on Monday, December 27 by The Royal Forester pub at Callow Hill, near Bewdley, in association with Far Forest Primary School PTA.

The event will start at The Royal Forester and take in some of the area's most stunning scenery.

Warm clothing, mountain bikes and an entrance fee of £2.50 is all that is required.

Landlord Sean McGahern said: "We are absolutely delighted to once again host the festive treasure hunt."

"Having four children myself, I understand how hard it can be to keep them entertained at Christmas."

Registration is at 10.15am at the pub with the hunt starting 15 minutes later. A series of clues will send entrants through the forest by the Wyre Forest Visitor Centre, to return around two hours later for food at the Forester.

Minimum family team requirement is one adult to one child (14 years or under). For more information, or to register, call Mr McGahern on 01299 266286.

Mobility scooter is damaged

TWO men caused £40 of damage in St Michael's Court, Stourport, at 6.20am on Monday, December 13 when they removed the fascia of a mobility scooter and tried to tow it.

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Cold snap!

THERE was at least one benefit from the recent cold snap – photographers were able to snap delightful pictures.

Ivan Griffin, of Skylark Way,

Spennells, Kidderminster captured these striking frost images while on a regular walk in the Spennells Valley with his wife, Sylvia.

"It was very beautiful that day," she said. "We have a circular walk that borders Captain's Pool. My husband always has his camera with him."

Course will focus on digital basics

ANYONE who wants to take pictures like these with their digital cameras may be interested in a photography course being run at Worcestershire County Council's Bishops Wood Environmental Centre, Stourport.

The course is designed to help people learn the basics of digital photography and show them how they can compose and take great pictures. The course lasts a full day with the morning session covering how to use the various con-

trols on the camera to make full use of the camera's potential.

In the afternoon participants will be able to put their new found skills into action by heading out into the picturesque surroundings of Bishops Wood's ancient woodland and meadows.

At the end of the day the course tutor will go the photos that were taken offering tips and advice for great results in the future.

Centre co-ordinator Gill Frankling said: "This course

would make a great present for anyone who has got, or is expecting to get, a new digital camera, particularly with the beautiful scenery on display at this time of year."

The course will take place on Saturday, January 29, at the centre in Crossway Green. For more information and to book a place on the course contact Gill on 01299 250513 or email bishopswoodcentre@worcestershire.gov.uk

Officer is injured in arrest

A POLICE officer was treated in hospital for a suspected broken ankle after an incident in Kidderminster town centre.

Police responded to a report of anti-social behaviour in Exchange Street at about 9pm on Friday, December 10.

While arresting a man outside the town hall an incident occurred during which an officer was hurt and subsequently taken to the Worcestershire Royal Infirmary.

The man was arrested on suspicion of possessing an offensive weapon, assault and obstructing a police officer in the execution of his duty. He was later released on police bail.

Witnesses or anyone with information should call police at Kidderminster on 0300 333 3000.

Scheme welcome

WYRE FOREST District Council has welcomed news that the Government is backing proposals for the creation of a local enterprise partnership for Worcestershire.

The partnerships are part of the Government's bid to make the economy more private sector driven.

Council leader Councillor John Campion said: "The bid was supported by local businesses and the council."

"It is pleasing that Government Ministers have moved so quickly."

"Wyre Forest District Council looks forward to playing a full role."

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Wed 30th Dec: 11.30am-11.00pm & 12.30pm-11.00pm
Thurs 31st Dec: 11.30am-11.00pm & 12.30pm-11.00pm
Fri 1st Jan: 11.30am-11.00pm & 12.30pm-11.00pm
Sat 2nd Jan: 11.30am-11.00pm & 12.30pm-11.00pm
Sun 3rd Jan: 11.30am-11.00pm & 12.30pm-11.00pm

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Sun 26th Dec Closed - Mon 27th Dec Closed

Mon 28th Dec: 11.30am-11.00pm & 12.30pm-11.00pm
Tue 29th Dec: 11.30am-11.00pm & 12.30pm-11.00pm
Wed 30th Dec: 11.30am-11.00pm & 12.30pm-11.00pm
Thurs 31st Dec: 11.30am-11.00pm & 12.30pm-11.00pm
Fri 1st Jan: 11.30am-11.00pm & 12.30pm-11.00pm
Sat 2nd Jan: 11.30am-11.00pm & 12.30pm-11.00pm
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thechronicle

Thanks for the boxes

COUNTY residents are being thanked by Operation Christmas Child for their kindness in donating more than 5,700 gift-filled shoeboxes for vulnerable children.

The boxes have come from communities throughout the county, including Bewdley, Stourport and Kidderminster. Teams of Operation Christmas Child volunteers at processing centres in Dudley, Evesham, Kidderminster and Worcester checked and loaded the shoeboxes for their journey to Bosnia, Crimea, Kyrgyzstan, Serbia and Swaziland.

The boxes, packed with toys, educational items, sweets and other small gifts, will bring Christmas joy to children who living in difficult conditions in orphanages, children's homes, street shelters and hospitals, or perhaps in poverty with their family.

Area co-ordinator Bob James said: "We see thoughtfulness from all ages and walks of life and it is very humbling. I wish each of these people could see the impact their shoeboxes have on the children. It really makes a difference."

Pupils game for new meals



Chef Simon Quill runs up another dish at Holy Trinity International School

PUPILS at a Kidderminster school proved game for a change in menu provided by their chef.

Simon Quill offered pheasant and duck at Holy Trinity International School during autumn term.

Game week proved so popular that Simon and his catering staff were inundated with requests for his take on the traditional favourite roasts.

"Quite simply, we love what we do creating the finest cuisine we can for

the school's students," he said.

"We design our menus to meet general student nutritional need as well as that of the school's many sports players who need to eat the right foods to support their demanding training regimes."

Much of the food is sourced locally. Headteacher Graham Hurrell added: "Students can't wait to taste his next culinary delicacy. He's a total school dinner inspiration."

Chance to shape the future

WYRE FOREST residents still have a chance to shape the future of their area's transport plans - but the deadline is looming.

Anyone can log on to www.worcestershire.gov.uk/ltp3 until the end of the month to find out more about the draft Local Transport Plan 3, which includes proposals for Kidderminster,

Bewdley and Stourport.

Residents can register their thoughts via the feedback section on the county council's website until December 31.

The draft plan currently being consulted will cover the period from April 2011 until 2026, although the document is expected to be reviewed regularly.

The plan will show how transport will be developed across Worcestershire in order to improve services in light of environment and social issues.

A high standard plan could also help in the future when it comes to applying to the Government for funding on major schemes and other initiatives.

Where Can I Go To Hire Or Buy The Best Fancy Dress Costume?



Don't be let down by online promises of delivery...

Costumes For All Occasions



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WAKE UP TO BREAKFAST WITH TOM CAMPBELL

TOP TEN PLAYLIST OF WEEK



X Factor winner Matt Cardle gets the airplay

Raise Your Glass
Pink

What's My Name?
Rihanna

When We Collide
Matt Cardle

All I Want for Christmas
is New Year's Day
Hurt

Christmas Lights
Coldplay

Heart and I
Robbie Williams
and Gary Barlow

Fools
Diane Birch

So Far Gone
James Blunt

Riviera Life
Caro Emerald

Christmas Kiss
Mim Grey

Countdown is on and there's just hours to go

Mere hours to go now!! Christmas seems to have come round ever so quickly and I am now totally ready...presents wrapped, cards written, excuses made. I even made an effort to lose a bit of weight just so I can "break even" over the festive season. Hope you're ready for it too!

Got a couple of choice pickings from our community noticeboard for you...

Far Forest Primary School PTA is holding its festive family mountain bike treasure hunt on Monday, December 27, from the Royal Forester, Callow Hill. Warm clothing, mountain bikes and a £2.50 fee are needed. Register at 10.15am; the trail takes roughly two hours, with festive fare at the end.

For more information or to register, call the Royal Forester on 01299 266286.

Forest Dog Rescue's Christmas sponsored walk is on Tuesday, December 28, with the start at 11am from Wyre Forest Visitor

Centre, Bewdley. Sponsorship forms are available on their website at www.forestdogrescue.org.uk or from their charity shop in Oxford Street, Kidderminster. Un-sponsored walkers are welcome - they just ask for a £5 donation. Under-16s go free and dogs are welcome!

Nearly time for me to leave you to your final Chrimbo prep...just enough time to tell you to tune into The Wyre over the Christmas break and you'll find lots of great programmes to keep you in the Christmas spirit, including a very special Christmas...erm...special featuring myself and Phil Ray from our Daytime Show.

Join us buffoons on Christmas Day from 11 o'clock for what should be a festive treat. For me, not for Phil. I'm going to torture the poor little fellow with bad jokes and mince pies! May I take this opportunity to wish you a very Merry Christmas Day. I hope Santa brings you everything you asked for...and maybe a bit of peace and quiet!

If you need to contact 107.2 The Wyre or have a community announcement, email info@thewyre.com

WEATHER UPDATE

Will we have a white Christmas? It's looking more and more likely.

Snow is forecast for today with strong winds from the north.

And although it should be mostly dry on the big day, it seems most unlikely that there won't be snow somewhere.

Further snow, ice and frost is on the way as we approach New Year.



DANI WOZENCROFT FROM WYRE NEWS WITH THE LATEST ROADWORKS

Bringing travel updates to keep you moving...

Kidderminster

The junction of Blakebrook and St Johns Avenue has traffic lights today (December 24).

Hartlebury

A449 Waresley to Torton Road has a speed limit of 40mph and contra flow in place by the Old Worcester Road until April 1, 2011

Ombersley

A449 Main Road has a speed

limit of 40mph and contra flow in place between Sinton Lane to Haye Lane until April 3, 2011.

Holt Fleet

Temporary gross weight limit of 7.5 tonnes due to bridge maintenance work on A4133 in both directions.

West Midlands

Narrow lanes and speed restrictions of 50mph on the M5, in both

directions between J3 and J4.

Bromsgrove

Traffic lights in place along Kidderminster Road, from Willow Road to Hanover Street.

Join the team every weekday for updates on the roads across Worcestershire.

Tune into 107.2 The Wyre.

You can be a Jambuster, call 0333 123 1072.

Find out what you're missing, add us to your radio favourites



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Relax & enjoy this large brown leather sofa, an essential purchase for any home!
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with at least a whole
year payment free*



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Largest offer with modern leather & fabric sofa solutions.
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Contemporary & stylish dining room...
Stylish and functional... leather effect chairs.
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NEW YEAR'S DAY (Sat) 10-6pm

A map showing the location of the shopping centre. The map highlights the junction of Leas Road and Leas Road, near the William & Sons and Very Hill Shopping Centre. The map also shows the location of the shopping centre relative to the Leas Road and Leas Road junction.

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doi:10.1371/journal.pone.0184083.g002

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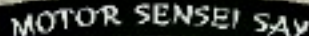
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Morning News.

2000-2001
2001-2002

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(1995) Action thriller, starring Bruce Willis, *Executive Decision*, 1995.



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BBC2 8.00 *Cheating*, 100 *CRASH* 8.35
CRASH REBELS: *CRASH* JOURNALING (M)
 8.55 *Go Home Railways* (M) 9.05 *TV4* 9.10 (M)
 9.15 *Who Do You Think You Are?* (M) 9.25
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Mark Smith

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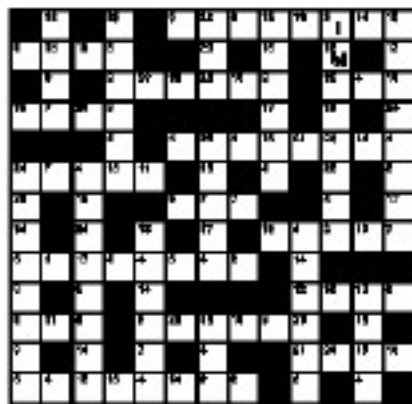
Read and Donate for November 2009

Brain Gym

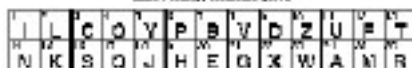
No.086

Codeword

Each number in the grid represents a different letter of the alphabet and every letter of the alphabet is used. Use the given letter(s) to the right of the main grid to start you off.



LIGHT WORDS CHRONICLE NO.



RainToday?

Don't get caught out in the rain or snow
Visit www.RainToday.co.uk

Double Crossword

Choose either grid one or grid two - both 11 across grid.

Cryptic Clues

Across

1. Didn't deny that we are human (4)
2. A reader for the vegetable (4)
3. Famous Russian author, perhaps (4)
4. A proper noun and a capital to start with (4)
5. A proper noun and a capital to start with (4)
6. A proper noun and a capital to start with (4)
7. A proper noun and a capital to start with (4)
8. A proper noun and a capital to start with (4)
9. A proper noun and a capital to start with (4)
10. A proper noun and a capital to start with (4)
11. A proper noun and a capital to start with (4)
12. A proper noun and a capital to start with (4)
13. A proper noun and a capital to start with (4)

Quick Clues

Across

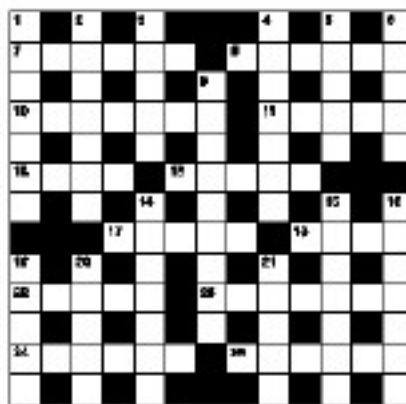
1. Counting from 4 (4)
2. Cotton cloth (4)
3. Vegetable (4)
4. Cook (4)
5. Trade (4)
6. Minded (4)
7. Handed (4)
8. Handed (4)
9. Handed (4)
10. Handed (4)
11. Handed (4)
12. Handed (4)
13. Handed (4)

Down

1. Handed from clock, though (4)
2. A test for me (4)
3. Study of making of (4)
4. A test for me (4)
5. A test for me (4)
6. A test for me (4)
7. A test for me (4)
8. A test for me (4)
9. A test for me (4)
10. A test for me (4)
11. A test for me (4)
12. A test for me (4)
13. A test for me (4)

Down

1. A test for me (4)
2. A test for me (4)
3. A test for me (4)
4. A test for me (4)
5. A test for me (4)
6. A test for me (4)
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9. A test for me (4)
10. A test for me (4)
11. A test for me (4)
12. A test for me (4)
13. A test for me (4)



LIGHT WORDS CHRONICLE NO. 101
Across: 1. A test for me (4)
Down: 1. A test for me (4)

Sudoku

Fill in the grid with numbers 1-9 so that every column, every row and each of the 3x3 boxes contains all the digits from 1 to 9.

LIGHT WORDS CHRONICLE NO. 101
Across: 1. A test for me (4)
Down: 1. A test for me (4)



Circlegram

Put the letters in the grid with the letters in the circle so that the letters within each circle can be arranged to form words on a common theme. What are the three words, and the letter represented by the question mark?



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THESE OFFERS AND PRICES
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10-5pm****Monday 27th
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9am-5pm****Tuesday 28th
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9am-5pm****THIS IS OUR BIGGEST SALE EVER!! EXTRA
DISCOUNT OFF OUR ALREADY LOW SALE
PRICES FOR THE FIRST 3 DAYS ONLY**

1 ONLY TO CLEAR SAVE 70% MYERS FULL DOUBLE SIDE STORAGE DIVAN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> High quality 2 Deep Divaners Famous Brand  <p>WAS £499 NOW ONLY £125</p>	1 SET ONLY TO CLEAR SAVE 70% A COMPLETE DOUBLE FRAME AND MATTRESS SET <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Leather look Complete M Mattress Superb Value  <p>WAS £369 NOW ONLY £99</p>	1 ONLY TO CLEAR SAVE 60% DOUBLE ORTHOPAEDIC DIVAN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 2 Deep divaners Firm deep mattress Headboard extra  <p>WAS £199 NOW ONLY £79</p>	1 ONLY TO CLEAR SAVE 70% DOUBLE MEMORY FOAM DIVAN <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Memory foam and pocket springs Supports the range Headboard extra  <p>WAS £699 NOW ONLY £199</p>
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6 ONLY TO CLEAR FULLY SPRUNG MATTRESSES Duckworth Duvet & Pillow Set <p>WAS £69 NOW ONLY £39</p>	2 ONLY TO CLEAR DOUBLE SIZE MEMORY FOAM MATTRESS Duckworth Duvet & Pillow Set <p>WAS £349 NOW ONLY £149</p>	4 ONLY TO CLEAR DUCHESS 3/4 SIZE BED Duckworth Duvet & Pillow Set, Duckworth coverlet <p>WAS £189 NOW ONLY £109</p>	3 ONLY TO CLEAR KINGSIDE ORTHOPAEDIC BED Duckworth Duvet & Pillow Set, Extra Deep Mattress <p>WAS £249 NOW ONLY £139</p>
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Gently does it as Williams eyes his return

KIDDERMINSTER Harriers left-back Mike Williams has admitted his 2010 may be over after surgery on his injured foot.

Williams had an operation to remove a growth on his left foot, ruling him out of the recent FA Trophy defeat at his

former club Wrexham.

The stitches are due to come out today, just three days before Harriers go to Forest Green on Boxing Day.

The 24-year-old cannot train until then, which ruled him out of last Saturday's visit of Kettering which was postponed in

any event.

It also means he could possibly miss both festive matches, Forest Green away and Newport at home on December 28 – assuming both beat the weather.

But Williams is hoping to be fully fit by the time of the Forest Green return

game at Aggborough on New Year's Day.

He said: "I would imagine that the New Year's Day game is a more realistic target to look at."

"But I am not going to say I can't make a game until I have had the bandage off and the stitches taken out."

"Boxing Day could be a step too far," he conceded. "I have to stay at home with my feet up for two weeks so the injury will heal."

I would rather make sure I am right for the rest of the season, instead of coming back too early," he added.



The impressive new stand at Warwickshire's home is taking shape



How the new stand looks from outside the Edgbaston ground

EDGBASTON IS SET TO BOWL 'EM OVER

CRICKET FANS can see the £30million expansion of Warwickshire's Edgbaston ground, increasing capacity to 25,000, continuing apace.

The playing surface, grown to Warwickshire's specification in a field in Lincolnshire, has been relaid with a new drainage system and permanent floodlights fitted.

The framework for the new stand, which sits between the Eric Hollies Stand and the Priory Stand is also nearly finished.

And bosses revealed the naming rights for the new stand would be established in the new year.

Club chief executive Colin Povey said: "We're just coming onto that stage of the development. We will be starting to approach companies in the new year."

The curved shell of the building, which will eventually be coated in silver-coloured aluminium panels, is nearly finished and will expand the seating and media facilities, bringing the stadium into line with the iconic press box at Lord's.

The finished work will feature five new floodlights, offices, shops and apartments at the site. It is set for completion in time for England's Test match against India on August 10 next year.

Phil Macdonald, project director at Edgbaston, said: "The new facilities will be like rugby and football grounds with a covered concourse between the new stand and the Eric Hollies Stand."

Atmosphere

"The new stadium will have the best facilities for media in England with parts of the third and fourth floor for broadcast and print media inside the steel box design which will sit on top of the new stand."

The work will give Warwickshire the best chance to compete for international matches.

Povey added: "The expansions puts us in a very strong position. We will have the largest capacity for a ground outside London and more than Trent Bridge's 17,000 in Nottingham and the 15,000 capacity at Cardiff, with whom we're effectively competing. It should keep Edgbaston on that main roster of Test grounds."

The expansion will not harm the atmosphere Edgbaston has developed in recent years, the most vocal support England receive on home soil. Mr Povey added: "England win here more often than anywhere else, the players love the noise and the crowds love the fun atmosphere so it's a win-win."

As the project nears completion, lifts stairs and seats will be installed. Alongside the stadium work, the ground is being fitted with modern drainage. Permanent floodlights will mean less light spillage from day/night matches for nearby residents and make taking high catches easier for fielders as the bulbs used produce less glare.

The redevelopment is expected to guarantee a place for international cricket in Birmingham and an Ashes match in 2013. It will feature an "unusually shaped" square structure to house a banqueting suite. The former Calthorpe stand, the old pavilion and the old indoor cricket school were all bulldozed. The stadium has been reconfigured alongside the demolition and still has a capacity of 17,000.



Warwickshire chief executive Colin Povey watches the redevelopment work at Edgbaston taking place

Reinforcements for the Robins as Perks and Kirkham swell team

DUDLEY TOWN have added former Bustleholme joint-manager Neil Perks onto their management team following his design to resign from the Tipton-based club.

Perks has been joined at the Dell Stadium by former Dudley under-18s coach Nigel Kirkham, with the duo joining up with current Robins boss Steve Hinks.

Perks, who took the Bustle-

holme hot seat with Karl Dolman in the summer of 2009, oversaw a rapid transformation for the Bs who rose from basement dwellers to genuine title contenders within 18 months.

He will be joining a Dudley Town side that lies midway up the West Midlands Premier Division table after a mixed bag of results in the opening half of the season.

Kirkham needs little introduction to Robins supporters

after a period in charge of the club's successful under-18s side that nurtured current first team player Alex Perry as well as Halesowen Town's England Colleges midfielder Conor Gater.

Chairman Stephen Austin believes Perks and Kirkham's arrival onto Hinks' management team will be the break the club is looking for.

"Steve has been looking for additional support from those with local Dudley knowledge

and experience," he said.

"I am certain this is what Neil and Nigel will provide the club and am sure this will have a positive effect."

"We would all like to welcome the duo to Dudley Town Football Club," he added.

Hinks welcomes the reinforcements after a run of torrid luck with his coaching staff.

Player-coach Kevin Thompson left the club for a similar role with Evo-Stik Premier

Division club Chasetown in September before assistant manager Richard Smith had to leave due to work commitments in November.

Dudley have been without a game since November 20 and now face a wait until January 8 to get their season under way again.

Hinks has used the time to bolster his squad with the addition of highly rated duo Ricky Dudley and Jemall Pennock.

Six-goal Tipton hammer out title warning

Tipton Town 6
Highgate United 0

TIPTON climbed into second place in the Baker-Joiner Midland Football Alliance following an impressive return to action.

After a three-week weather enforced absence, they hit top form on December 15 and went on to their biggest win of the season.

Tipton, who gave a debut to recent signing Alex Cowley, started brightly with Danny Bragoli linking up with Jozsef Jakab who saw his shot saved by Shaun Hoccum.

Dave Bate then tested the Highgate keeper from distance with a well-struck shot but found him equal to the task.

The pressure on the visitors' goal continued as Ricky Baker fired over the top.

Drive

Tipton's efforts were rewarded when Bate opened the scoring with a superbly struck drive that flew into the top corner.

Bragoli was denied a goal when Hoccum saved and Jakab headed wide from Ross Brown's cross as Tipton pushed for a second.

At the other end, keeper Matt Sargeant was called into action to deny the pacy Elroy Bennett as Highgate threatened.

Tipton added the crucial second goal five minutes before the break. Bragoli's cross headed home by Eric Bowen from six yards out.

The tempo was maintained after the interval with Tipton netting twice in the opening eight minutes of the second half.

Substitute

Jakab set up Bate to net his second and three minutes later Jakab himself got his name on the scoresheet as Tipton guaranteed the destination of the points.

Cowley fired just over before Jakab added his second, and his 14th of the season, when he headed home Bowen's cross.

Tipton weren't finished and added a sixth goal as the match wound into its final stages.

It came when substitute Ryan Mosedale cut inside his man and beat Hoccum with a well-placed finish to cap off a great night for the home side.

The Kidderminster Chronicle, a Midland News Association Ltd publication, printed by the company at Wolverhampton, on Thursday, December 23, 2010.

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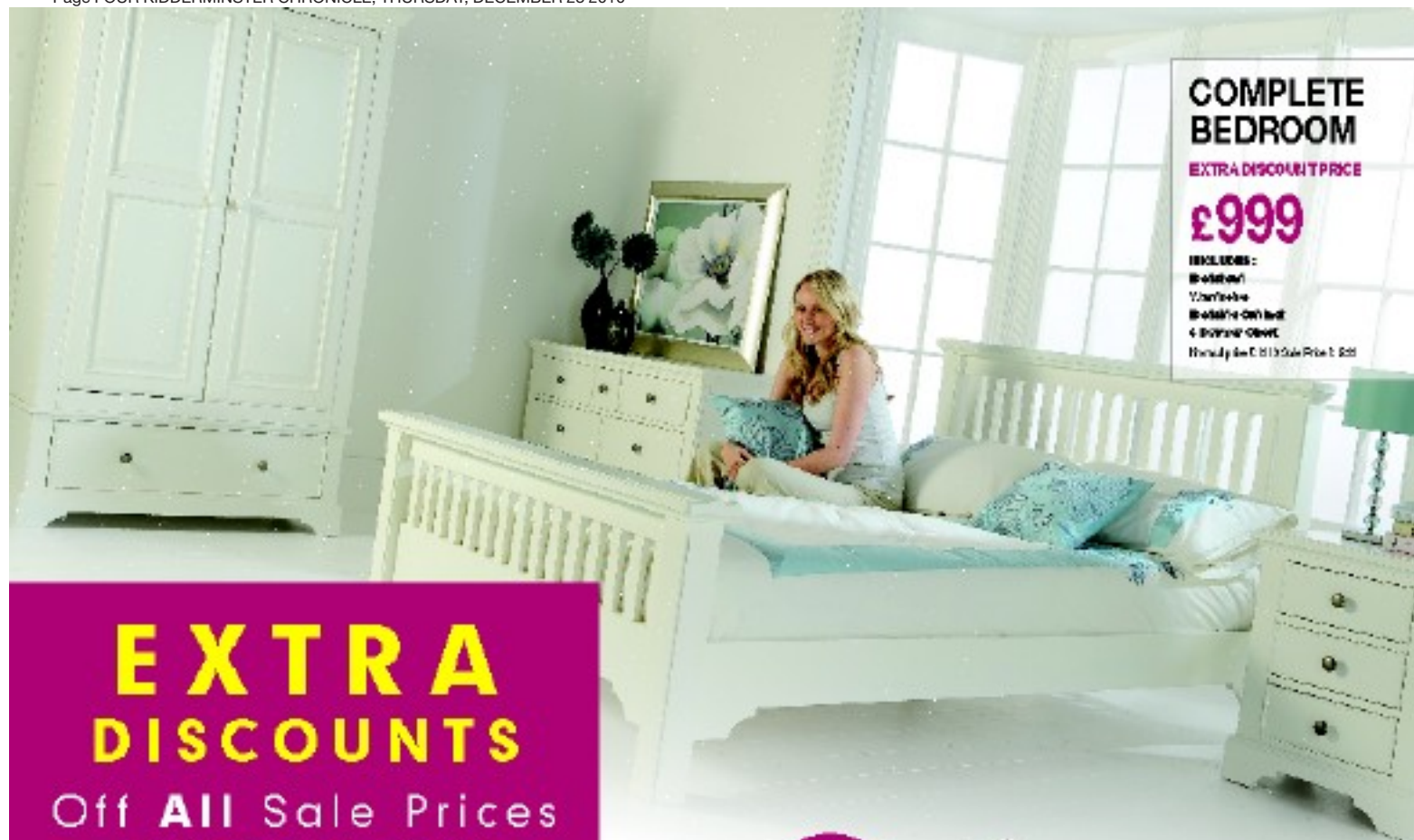
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